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SACRAMENTO INSTITUTE.

Commencement Exercises — Banquet — Etc.

The second annual commencement of the Sacramento Institute was held on Saturday evening at the Assembly chamber. The spacious room was filled to its utmost capacity, and even standing room was at a premium. The stage, dressed at the back in national colors, was occupied by the graduating class, several members of the faculty and choir, a number of clergymen, Governor Irwin, and Brother Justin, the President of St. Mary's College, San Francisco. The audience was one extremely friendly to the pupils of the school, and evidently inspired by an intention to enjoy the occasion to the utmost. The musical exercises were under charge of Professor Walley, aided by Professor Hepburn. The programme was called promptly at half past seven o'clock, and began with a piano solo, very well played by Master John F. Webster, and then proceeded as follows: Recitation, creditably delivered, John H. Cadogan. Solo and chorus, John Mooney, P. Burns, W. Huntoon and C. Schoonmaker, very well rendered. Essay, "Formation of Character," James T. Bow; it was a well delivered, thoughtful plea for fixedness of purpose and earnestness of action, and pointed out clearly the necessity for decision in character, well directed effort and unceasing labor. Recitation, "Death of Kosciusko," Bernard Arnold, a superior effort. Vocal solo, by John Campbell, who has a remarkable voice for so small a boy. Essay, "California," William Byington; a brilliant sketch of the geography, resources, advantages and possibilities of this State and the character of its people; an excellent composition, evidencing vivid imagination and a fine rhetorical power. Violin duet, B. F. Smith and H. Kirk; a fairly played selection, which was too difficult for the players. Recitation, "The Raven," George Milliman; a very fine effort, exhibiting elocutionary powers of a superior order. Vocal solo, by Conrad Weil, a lad with a very sweet contralto voice. Essay, "The Dignity of Labor," by William B. Swears; this was a practical dissertation, one evincing a careful consideration of the topic; it was moderate in tone, yet positive in expression, and was delivered with force and effectiveness. Vocal solo, "Her Bright Smile Haunts Me Still," Master John F. Webster, a lad with a soprano voice of high register; he sang remarkably well. Essay, "Catholicity, the Defender of Human Rights," B. F. Smith; this was a strong composition, de-

warm defense of the Catholic Church against the charge that it has fostered despotism and has been the foe of liberty; he sketched the rise and fall of the Roman Empire, the birth and growth of liberty, and the rise of the church, triumphant, bearing in her bosom the sacred seeds of civilization; he held the church had ever been the consistent defender of human rights, and had been foremost in defining true liberty and awakening men to the defense and maintenance of their inherent rights which are heaven born and God given; he drew largely, in illustration, from historic annals, to show the interference of Catholicity and the Popes in behalf of the rights of men. Declamation, James F. Cadogan, a pleasing effort. Piano solo, John J. Tobin, well played. Dialogue, "Dr. Pangloss," by Henry Dennie, Wm. Hanlon and A. O'Neil, an amusing dialogue which was sufficient to create much merriment. Vocal selection, "O Restless Sea," sung by a choir of seventeen voices, the lads sustaining the soprano part; it was very well executed, and was decidedly the musical gem of the evening, the harmonies were well developed and the sentiment of the piece effectively preserved. Declamation, John Doyle, a very superior effort. Vocal solo, "Gathering Shells by the Sea Shore," Charles Wait, well sung by a lad with a clear and penetrating tenor voice. Essay, "The Liberator and His Times," Isaac J. Traubor, an interesting analysis of the character, acts and aims of Daniel O'Connell, and a well digested review of the times upon which he exerted an influence; it was a scholarly production and was given with fine elocutionary effect. Vocal solo, "My Poor Heart is Sad," John Heffernan. Sung very sweetly in the pleasing soprano of a lad with a sympathetic voice. Recitation, "Virginians," Lee Brown. This was the best elocutionary effort of the evening, and was of a high degree of excellence. Essay, "Liberty," Edward J. Figg; he believed the golden rule to be the basis of liberty, and from that standpoint he considered the subject at length, with some forcible historical recitals and comparisons; it was an analytical review of the chief events in the history of nations, out of which the elements of liberty have grown; it was a logical and well digested composition, and was delivered with feeling and marked effect. Piano solo, by Professor Hepburn, played with delicacy of touch and breadth of expression. Essay, "Our Country," Henry Ryan; this was a patriotic effort, delivered with much force and fervor, and showed the young gentleman to be inspired by sentiments of a lofty character regarding the nation, the du-

ties of citizens and the future of the Republic, the strength and power of the nation, the relation of religion to Government, and the position of the United States among the nations of the world. Brother Cianan, President of the Institute, then called up the graduates, and Governor Irwin delivered to them their commercial diplomas as follows: To Henry Ryan, Isaac J. Trainor, Edward J. Figg, James T. Bow and Frank B. Smith; also, certificates in scholarship in given studies as follows: Henry Ryan—analytical trigonometry, English literature, latin, plane and geodesic surveying and logic; I. J. Trainor—plane trigonometry, algebra, plane and geodesic surveying, English literature and logic; J. T. Bow—plane trigonometry, algebra, plane and geodesic surveying, rhetoric and English literature; Edward J. Figg—plane trigonometry, algebra, plane and geodesic surveying, English literature and logic; F. B. Smith—natural philosophy, rhetoric, history and surveying; Lee Brown—arithmetic, book-keeping, natural philosophy, algebra, plane geometry, history and rhetoric; J. F. Cadogan—arithmetic, book-keeping, natural philosophy, algebra, rhetoric, plane trigonometry, surveying and history; Peter Shields—arithmetic book-keeping, natural philosophy, plane geometry, history and rhetoric; Thomas Gleeson—penmanship, arithmetic and book-keeping; T. Meagher—penmanship, arithmetic and book-keeping; John Hoy—arithmetic, book-keeping, penmanship, natural philosophy, plane geometry and rhetoric; William B. Swears—penmanship, arithmetic and book-keeping; D. Shanahan—arithmetic, book-keeping, rhetoric and natural philosophy. A full choir of boys and young men, and a few adults, then sang in excellent taste, "O Gloriosa Domina."

Hon. Grove L. Johnson was then introduced, and addressed the graduates. He compared the educational course of the Institute to the fable of Aladdin. It was the lamp which would cause the genii to appear, and do the bidding of the true student; a more wonderful lamp, indeed, than that of Aladdin in its results. He reminded them that they were not to consider their education ended, but rather just begun. He referred to the opportunities before them and how, possessed of the lamp of education, they could, by rubbing it with the oil of application, summon genii from every side. The possibilities to be thus accomplished he reviewed at length. They could summon the genii of history, the philosophical research of Gibbon and Hume, the prejudiced but valuable works of Josephus, the clear narration of Bancroft, the diffusive learning of Rollin, the stately sentences of Alison, or the poetic prose of Goldsmith. They could learn all of man's doings upon earth, from creation's dawn to this evening's hour; of heroes of battle and of peace, of kings and peasants, of empires and Republics, of sages and sinners, of man and his sojourn here. But while they delved in history and stored the

memory with knowledge, he would have them vacillate the heart as well as the mind. He called their attention to the realms of poetry, and sketched for them a line of poetic reading. He would have them meanwhile educate not only the heart and mind, but the soul also. He then pointed them to the realms of science, and the mechanic arts, and drew their attention to the fact that all they had acquired was merely preparatory to enable them to still further educate themselves and drink deep at exhaustless fountains of useful knowledge. But they must not expect to cull only sweets; evil spirits would come also when the good were summoned, and the chief of these was sin, who would seek to use the magic lamp to bring them to bitter ends; to make it a false beacon, a weapon of danger and death. He concluded in an eloquent manner, with an expression of confidence that the preparatory education they had received had fitted them well for the battle of life, and made them not only wiser but better.

At the conclusion of the exercises, during which those students who took part in the programme were all loudly applauded and showered with bouquets by admiring friends, some thirty citizens, at the invitation of President Glanan and Rev. P. Scanlan, repaired to the dining hall of the Institute and sat down at the annual banquet which it is the custom of the faculty to spread on commencement occasions. Rev. P. Scanlan presided at a bountifully laden table, and at the proper time welcomed the guests, referring in his remarks to the generosity of the people of Sacramento, who gave

the money necessary to the erection of the Institute buildings, and to their deep interest in educational matters as made constantly manifest. He proposed as the first toast, "The health of Governor Irwin." The Governor responded, saying he was ever gratified to be able to aid any educational institution. In a great free State like this, made up of so many different elements, he felt that it was the duty of all to use their best efforts to secure general education and to labor for the preservation of good order in the land. It was the duty of the Executive to see that good order reigned within the State. It is the result of healthy and true development, and he felt that the churches had a very important part to play in the development of the State's greatness and prosperity. Religion was necessary for the well being of society, and he gave a hearty God speed to all who worked in the cause, no matter what they professed. He then paid a handsome tribute to the President and faculty and students of the Institute, and gave "The health of the President, Rev. Bro. Ciaman." The President in responding, said he was full of gratitude for the kindly feelings expressed, and indeed exhibited by the whole people of Sacramento to the Christian Brothers since their advent here. He and his confreres would do all they could in the good cause to make Sacramento proud of her rising generation.

President Justin, of St. Mary's College, being called out, said he endorsed fully what the Governor had said. He felt that any religion was better than no religion, and if we wanted to preserve our institutions we must inculcate sound principles, respect for the laws and the help of our fellow citizens. This all the churches and all the schools should inculcate. He proposed "The health of the Secretary of State, Beck," who responded in a neat speech complimentary to the graduates of the evening.

Superintendent of City Schools, Add C. Hinkson, was next called up by the Chair, and in doing so the Chair paid a compliment to the public schools of Sacramento, which he believed, so far as secular education went, were as thorough as in any place. But his view was that secular education is not enough and hence the Institute was founded. Mr. Hinkson in reply said that the compliment pronounced was appreciated. He felt that both the public and private schools had work enough to do.

Judge McFarland, of the City Board of Education, was next called out, by remarks of Mr. Hinkson. He agreed fully with President Justin that any religion was better than no religion, and he would go further and ask, how could we preserve our liberty without religion? He said the history of the world proved it was impossible for a people to preserve their free institutions without a regard for religion. Without religion man was but an animal, a little above other animals, but still an animal. He saw nothing in life worth man's high ambition were there no hereafter.

J. F. Sheehan responded, on call, in behalf of the Press. E. W. Maslin, W. B. C. Brown, General P. F. Walsh, F. A. Hornblower, Christopher Green, Richard Dale and others followed in brief and pertinent speeches to the close of the banquet.

ONE HUNDRED CASES OF GOODS distributed in different departments of the Red House last week: Cases of piques (white), 8½ cents per yard; cases of new style flowered Marseilles